GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:176
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2007
FTA BETWEEN INDIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES
Singh Shri Rajiv Ranjan (Lalan);Suman Shri Ramji Lal

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether International trade between India and several countries is being carried out under the Free Trade Agreement (FTA);

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the names of the countries with which FTA has been signed since April, 2007;

(c) the minimum and maximum reductions in taxes applicable under the agreement; and

(d) the average value of annual exports and imports made under the agreement during the last three years?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.176 FOR ANSWER ON 27TH NOVEMBER, 2007 REGARDING `FTA BETWEEN INDIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES`

(a) to (c) India has signed the following Free Trade Agreements with its trading partners:-

Name of the Agreement	Date of Signing/Renewal	Tariff Liberalisation Programme
India-Sri Lanka FTA	28th December. 1998	Zero duty entry of Sri Lankan goods since March, 2003 (except items in Negative List and TRQ List)
Agreement on SAFTA	4th January, 2004	Tariff concessions implemented from 1st July, 2006. Zero duty entry of goods originating in SAARC LDCs by December 2007 and 0-5% in seven years for Non-LDCs. No concessions on items that are kept in the Sensitive List.
India-Singapore CECA	29th June, 2005	Tariff concessions implemented from 1st August, 2005. Zero duty in April, 2009 (except items in Negative List)
India-Nepal Treaty of Trade	Renewed from 6th March 2007	Agreement valid from 6th March 2007 to 5th March 2012. Zero duty entry of goods already allowed (except items in Negative List and TRQ List)
India-Bhutan Agreement on Trade Commerce and Transit	Renewed from 29th July, 2006	Agreement valid from 29th July 2006 for ten years. Zero duty entry of goods already allowed.

(d) India`s average value of exports and imports made to these countries during the period 2004 - 2007 is as follows:

(Value in US $ Million)
(Source: DGCI&S Data)

Country	India`s exports to	India`s imports from
Bangladesh	1641.11	138.3
Bhutan	80.42	100.4
Maldives	61.3	1.88
Nepal	843.87	343.88
Pakistan	853.29	199.26
Sri Lanka	1897.81	475.58
Singapore	5148.99	3825.11